

—on very many points the conclusions of the two agree, but the debt of the later to the earlier writer is much less than the reviewer asserts. Macaulay's debt to Mackintosh was of a different kind. Sir James had made a large collection of transcripts and extracts for the purposes of his history. These were freely placed at Macaulay's disposal. He says in a footnote :

I take this opportunity of expressing my warm gratitude to the family of my dear and honoured friend Sir James Mackintosh for confiding to me the materials collected by him at a time when he meditated a work similar to that which I have undertaken. I have never seen, and I do not believe that there anywhere exists, within the same compass, so noble a collection of extracts from public and private archives. The judgment with which Sir James, in great masses of the rudest ore of history, selected what was valuable, and rejected what was worthless, can be fully appreciated only by one who has toiled after him in the same mine.¹

Though this is a warm and generous acknowledgment, it does not state with sufficient precision the extent of Macaulay's obligations. Any reader who examines Macaulay's footnotes at all carefully can see what immense help the transcripts in the Mackintosh collection were to him. The whole collection has now found a resting-place in the British Museum.² It consists of forty

volumes of
papers, all dealing with the history of the
period between
1688 and 1702. It is valuable not merely for its
bulk, but
for the systematic care with which the
documents were
selected. It contains a collection of
newsletters for the
years 1682 to 1688, twelve volumes of letters
copied from
the archives of the French Foreign Office, the
letters of
Cardinal Adda to Rome from 1685 to 1699
those of the
11, 381-2 (iii). a Add. MSS. 34487-526.